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Subject: Flint Readout 08/23/16

[No clear link between rashes and Flint water crisis, researchers say](#)

By Gary Ridley, MLIVE 08/23/16 4:10 PM [video clip of Dr. Lurie]

Health and environmental officials say they were unable to find a definitive link between the city's water problems and rashes reported by residents, but they added it's "plausible" the two may be related. Dr. Nicole Lurie, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's lead Flint water crisis official, said Tuesday, Aug. 23, that a lack of historical individual water data limited researchers' ability to find a link between the city's poor water quality while using the Flint River as its drinking water source and reports of rashes by residents. "I know these findings might not immediately alleviate the fear and anxiety that many families feel right now," Lurie said. "I know there's nothing more important to you than your health and wellbeing."

New Study Shows No Definitive Link Between Flint Water Source Switch, Rashes

By Jamie Valentine, 9 & 10 News 08/23/16 4:10 PM

Another update on the Flint water crisis. Investigators are releasing new details tied to skin rashes. A new study shows there is no definitive link between the switch in water source and rashes, because of a lack of old water samples.

Experts conclude Flint River water might have caused skin rashes

By FOX 2 Detroit 08/23/16 4:08 PM

Federal and state officials say the river water that Flint residents used for more than a year for bathing and cleaning may have caused skin rashes that possibly worsened because of people's mental stress and hygiene changes made over concerns about the water. Dr. Nicole Lurie from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services says experts "found evidence supporting Flint residents' concern that water from the Flint River might have led to skin problems."

Study: Improperly treated water a 'plausible' cause of skin rashes in Flint

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 08/23/16 4:00 PM

A federal report says improperly treated Flint River water was a "plausible" cause of skin rashes suffered by city residents. Researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and other federal agencies have spent the past six months interviewing and examining hundreds of Flint residents. About half say they developed skin rashes before Flint switched back to Detroit's water last October. "I know that these findings might not immediately alleviate the fear and anxiety that many families throughout Flint feel right now about all this," says Dr. Nicole Lurie, who's been leading the federal response to the Flint water crisis.

Water chemistry problems may have caused Flint rashes

By Kristen Jordan Shamus, Detroit Free Press 08/23/16 3:16 PM

A months-long investigation that brought federal, state and local leaders to Flint to hunt for a cause of mysterious rashes and complaints of hair loss has not found any definitive answers. Federal and local health and environmental authorities said at a news conference Tuesday that examinations of 122 people with rashes who had exposure to Flint municipal water, phone and in-person interviews with 390 people and extensive water testing in 170 homes did not prove a

correlation, but it didn't rule it out, either. "These findings might not immediately alleviate the fear and anxiety that many residents of Flint are feeling right now," said Dr. Nicole Lurie, assistant secretary for preparedness and response for the U.S Department of Health and Human Services. "I want you to know that your concerns are justified that the rashes are real, that's why we put so much careful effort into this study."

Flint's tainted water may have led to rashes and hair loss, investigation finds

By Ryan Felton, Guardian 08/23/16 3:14 PM

A months-long government investigation bolsters claims of residents in Flint, Michigan, that the city's lead-tainted water led to a breakout of rashes and hair loss for residents. Though the investigation stopped short of definitively linking the symptoms to the water source, it found based on water tests and surveys of medical diagnoses that resident concerns were valid. The investigation by federal and state agencies, including the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as the US and Michigan departments of health and human services, analyzed water quality data from April 2014 to October 2015, the time frame when Flint's water supply was sourced from the Flint river, a water source later deemed to be corroding pipes and leaching lead into the water. From the outset, residents raised concerns that the new water source was causing a spate of rashes and hair loss.

Experts Conclude Flint River Might Have Caused Skin Rashes

By David Eggert, ABC News 08/23/16 2:56 PM

The improperly treated river water that Flint residents bathed and cleaned with for 1? years may have caused skin rashes that possibly worsened because people became physically and mentally stressed and changed their hygiene over concerns about the water, federal and state officials said Tuesday. The months-long, joint investigation found no definitive link between the Michigan city's 2014 switch to the Flint River and rashes because of a lack of water samples from that time. But Dr. Nicole Lurie with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said a team of chemical exposure experts and dermatologists "found evidence supporting Flint residents' concern that water from the Flint River might have led to skin problems." Lurie said the city's current water from Lake Huron, to which Flint returned in October amid a lead contamination crisis, does not contain metals and minerals at levels known to be associated with skin problems.

Health officials: Flint water might have caused rashes

By Jacob Carah, Detroit News 08/23/16 2:30 PM

State and federal health officials have concluded the improperly treated river water provided to Flint over an 18-month period beginning in April 2014 “might” have been behind the skin problems and hair loss reported by many residents. A coalition of researchers released findings Tuesday of a months-long investigation initiated earlier this year that included a survey of 390 people with active rashes or hair loss. With a goal of understanding the science behind resident complaints, the study did not rule out the city’s drinking water as the cause of rashes widespread in the city while the Flint River served as the source. “The (research team) ... found evidence supporting Flint residents’ concern that water from the Flint River might have led to skin problems,” said Dr. Nicole Lurie, who is the assistant secretary for preparedness and response with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Tuesday. “Fortunately, water samples from the city’s current water did not show metals and minerals at levels that would cause or make rashes worse.” Lurie, however, was quick to add: “We cannot definitively say that these are related to skin rashes of participants because the samples we have are not from when the system was on Flint River water.”

Elevated Lead Levels

High lead levels found in Flint homes in latest round of 6-month testing

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 08/23/16 1:44 PM

City officials are sending fresh notices to homes where lead levels tested higher than federal action levels. The city of Flint issued an announcement on Aug. 22 saying 10 percent of homes tested in areas considered high risk showed lead levels of 20 parts per billion which exceeds the federal action level of 15 ppb.

High Lead Levels Recorded in Flint Drinking Water This Year

By Rachel Leven, Bloomberg BNA 08/22/16

The water crisis in Flint, Mich., isn't over, city sampling data released Aug. 22 shows. High levels of lead were recorded in the drinking water in some areas of Flint as recently as the first half of 2016, the data shows. Tap water sampling data from January to June shows certain “high risk” areas in Flint had a concentration of lead of 20 parts per billion, which is higher than the federal action level of 15 ppb, the city said. The water system overall has improved from when the drinking water crisis came to light, JoLisa McDay, the Flint interim utilities administrator, said in a statement, but she urged residents to continue drinking bottled or filtered water. Flint residents have used filters for their water for months.

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